

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

May 8-9th, 2014
Montana School for the Deaf and Blind
3911 Central AVE
Great Falls MT

Thursday May 8, 2014
8:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:33 AM by Chair Carroll.

Board members present were: Ms. Sharon Carroll, Chair; Mr. Bernie Olson, Vice-Chair; Ms. Charity Ratliff; Ms. Greta Gustafson; Mr. John Edwards; Mr. Paul Andersen; Ms. Mary Jo Bremner. Board members absent: Ms. Erin Williams; Ms. Lila Taylor. Staff present included: Mr. Pete Donovan, Executive Director, Board of Public Education; Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Assistant, Board of Public Education. Guests included: Superintendent of Public Instruction Ms. Denise Juneau; Ms. Shannon O'Brien; Dr. Susan Wolfe, Great Falls College - MSU; Mr. Dennis Parman, OPI; Ms. Ann Gilkey, OPI; Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, OPI; Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI; Ms. Patty Muir, OPI; Mr. Michael Hall, OPI; Mr. Steve Gettel, Superintendent, MSDB; Dr. Ken Miller, MSU-Billings; Ms. RaeLynn Connoles, Billings; Ms. Katherine Orr, Agency Legal Services; Mr. Patrick DeJong, Manhattan, MT; Ms. Patty Myers, Great Falls; Mr. Dohn Ratliff; Hardin, Ms. Maggie Ratliff, Hardin;

*****Pledge of Allegiance by MSDB Students and Presentation from Students*****

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was given by Mr. Pat Schlauch from the Student Assistance Foundation and updated the Board on the Montana College Gap Analysis. General information was distributed to the Board. Ms. Molly Wilkins, VISTA gave a brief overview of the analysis.

Ms. Patty Myers, former Chair of the Board of Public Education addressed the Board.

Ms. Ratliff introduced the new Student Representative Greta Gustafson. Ms. Gustafson will be the new Student Representative beginning at the July meeting. Ms. Ratliff will be leaving the Board as she graduates from high school. Ms. Gustafson introduced herself and her background.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda was adopted as presented.

ADOPT AGENDA

Mr. Bernie Olson moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. John Edwards seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

❖ REPORTS – Sharon Carroll (Items 1-6)

Item 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT
Sharon Carroll

- **Committee Appointments: MSDB and MACIE**

Ms. Carroll announced that the MSDB Committee will remain at 3 members, with no new appointments made until next year at the end of Mr. Olson's term. Ms. Mary Jo Bremner will be the Board representative to MACIE.

Item 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
Pete Donovan

Mr. Donovan thanked Ms. Ratliff for her service and wished her well. Mr. Donovan introduced Representative Kris Hansen in the audience. Mr. Donovan updated the Board on the recent CSPAC meeting in April, initial planning for the search for a new MSDB Superintendent, and updated the Board on upcoming meetings he will be attending.

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public was afforded the opportunity to comment before the Board on every action item on the agenda prior to final Board action.

- **CSPAC Appointments**
 - **Dr. Cindy O'Dell – Post Secondary Representative**
 - **Jo Dell Beeler K-12 Specialist**
 - **LeAnne Yenny – Teacher K-8**

Mr. Bernie Olson moved that the Board of Public Education approve the CSPAC appointments as presented. Mr. John Edwards seconded the motion.

Mr. Eric Burke from MEA-MFT commended the appointments to CSPAC.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 3 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
State Superintendent Denise Juneau

Superintendent Juneau updated the Board on the most recent Student Advisory Council meeting, graduation activities she will be attending in the coming weeks, comments coming in from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Testing this spring, completion of ACT for all high school juniors, and the second meeting of the Education Opportunity Council for Military Families. Superintendent Juneau also mentioned that the Department of Defense is a sound supporter of the Common Core for ease of transition to new schools across the country for military students.

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public was afforded the opportunity to comment before the Board on every action item on the agenda prior to final Board action.

- **MACIE Appointment – Mr. Vernon Finley**

Ms. Mary Jo Bremner moved to accept the appointment of Mr. Vernon Finley to the MACIE Council. Motion seconded by Mr. Paul Andersen.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 4 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S REPORT
Commissioner Clayton Christian

Dr. Susan Wolfe, CEO and Dean of Great Falls College – MSU represented the Commissioner of Higher Education's Office. Dr. Wolfe extended the Commissioner's gratitude to the BPE for their work and updated the Board on several items including the Developmental Math Education group, the great work of Common Core and how that translates to success in Higher Ed. An update on Dual Enrollment was given, budget planning for the 2017 Biennium, and the upcoming 2015 Legislative session.

Item 5 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT
Shannon O'Brien

Ms. O'Brien extended the Governor's well wishes to the Board. Ms. O'Brien updated the Board on the Main Street Montana Project and distributed a report from the Governor's Office on the project. Ms. O'Brien updated the Board on other projects of interest in the Governor's Office such as innovative schools, continued teacher support, Dual Enrollment, increasing graduation rates, and Early Childhood. Ms. O'Brien discussed extensively the importance of Early Childhood Education. Montana is one of eight states that does not fund Early Childhood Education and learning.

Item 6 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT
Charity Ratliff

Ms. Ratliff updated the Board on her recent activities and future plans.

****Ms. Carroll introduced Great Falls Public Schools Superintendent Ms. Tammy Lacey in the audience.**

DISCUSSION

❖ MACIE LIAISON – Sharon Carroll (Item 8)

Item 8 MACIE REPORT
John Bercier

Mr. Mike Jetty from OPI gave the MACIE report to the Board on behalf of Mr. John Bercier. Mr. Jetty discussed recent MACIE meetings, activities going on with Indian Education for All in the schools such as podcasts, professional development for teachers, Common Core implementation assistance particularly with math, and a librarian workshop in Kalispell for best practices.

❖ ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE – Paul Andersen (Item 7)

Item 7 ASSESSMENT UPDATE
Judy Snow

Ms. Judy Snow reported to the Board the Assessment update including the ACT plus Writing that completed the end of April, as well as her attendance along with Deputy Superintendent Dennis Parman at the Smarter Balanced Assessment conference. Ms. Snow also gave an update on how the administration of the assessment went for the schools. The deadline for completion of the assessment is May 30th. Mr. Parman also discussed how the process went for schools, and for students statewide as well as nationwide. Ms. Snow discussed upcoming conferences in the fall that will include discussions/panels/meetings at a national level to discuss the Smarter Balanced Assessment results, best practices, and possible changes.

❖ **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – Bernie Olson (Items 9-10)**

Item 9 TEAMS UPDATE
Nancy Coopersmith

Ms. Coopersmith gave the TEAMS system update. Ms. Coopersmith indicated the feedback that OPI is receiving is positive and that most schools like it. Over half of all school districts have completed their information and OPI is working with the others to assist them with completing their information. Ms. Coopersmith indicated that OPI is on track with bringing a final report to the Board at the July meeting. Mr. Olson asked what challenges the TEAMS program has faced and Ms. Coopersmith gave some examples of obstacles that some schools experienced.

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public was afforded the opportunity to comment before the Board on every action item on the agenda prior to final Board action.

Item 10 HJ14 AND FINANCIAL EDUCATION: FOLLOW UP DISCUSSION FROM MARCH BPE MEETING
Pete Donovan

A background of HJ14 was given by Mr. Donovan. Concerns amongst the education associations were discussed. Representative Jacobson and Representative Hansen gave public comment in support of the resolution as well as Eric Burke, MEA-MFT; Karen Heisler, Rural Dynamics Inc.; Pat Schlauch, SAF; Mr. Dohn Ratliff, Music Teacher, Hardin HS; Ms. Greta Gustafson, new student rep; Superintendent Juneau. Comments from Board member Olson on this issue.

Mr. Olson moved that the Board of Public Education not act to increase graduation requirements for financial literacy. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Discussion from Board member Edwards, Board member Andersen, Board member Olson, Superintendent Juneau, student representative Ratliff.

Public Comment from Representative Jacobson, Representative Hansen, Ms. Patty Myers.

Additional comment from Board member Edwards.

Motion passed unanimously.

Formal request made by Board member Edwards to Superintendent Juneau to survey and assess what schools are offering now in the area of financial literacy.

❖ **LICENSURE COMMITTEE – John Edwards (Items 11-12)**

*****TIME CERTAIN AT 1:30 PM*****

Item 12 LICENSURE APPEAL BPE CASE# 2013-06
Katherine Orr

Ms. Orr introduced herself as counsel and gave an overview of the Exhibits

Mr. John Edwards moved to accept Exhibits #13-15 as presented. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. DeJong introduced himself and briefly reviewed his reasons for appeal.

Ms. Gilkey briefly reviewed the reasons for the denial from OPI.

Mr. DeJong presented his case to the Board. No cross examination from OPI.

Ms. Orr swore in Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction Mr. Dennis Parman. Mr. Parman explained his position with licensure denials and appeals. Ms. Gilkey questioned Mr. Parman regarding the denial of Mr. DeJong's application for licensure.

Mr. Parman fielded questions from the Board regarding the procedure in denying the license.

Mr. John Edwards moved the Board of Public Education deny the Office of Public Instructions denial of Mr. DeJong's license. No second. Motion failed.

Mr. Bernie Olson moved that the Board of Public Education approve the Office of Public Instructions denial of a Class 3 license for Mr. DeJong. Mr. Paul Andersen seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed with Board member Edwards dissenting.

**Item 11 REPORT ON THE REVISION PROCESS OF ARM TITLE 10, CHAPTER 57
EDUCATOR LICENSURE AND APPROVAL OF TIMELINE
Dennis Parman**

Mr. Parman reviewed the Chapter 57 revision process to date. The rules were reviewed internally at OPI then two meetings were held to review the changes. Recommendations were made and brought to the Superintendent. The Superintendent will review the recommended changes and those will be brought to the CSPAC for review in July. Mr. Parman presented the Board with a proposed timeline. Mr. Parman specified that the Chapter 57 changes do not need a fiscal analysis since they are not Accreditation standards.

Mr. John Edwards moved to adopt the OPI's proposed timeline for the Chapter 57 changes. Motion seconded by Mr. Paul Andersen.

Discussion on the process of review with CSPAC and the Superintendent. Motion passes unanimously.

❖ ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – Bernie Olson (Item 13)

**Item 13 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE VARIANCE TO STANDARDS REQUESTS
Dennis Parman**

Mr. Parman reviewed for the new members of the Board the process the Variance to Standards Review Board uses for reviewing and approving Variance Applications. A total of 7 applications for approvals for a Variance to the Standards were presented to the Variance to Standards Review Board and sent on to the BPE for review and approval or disapproval. Mr. Parman noted that Mr. Donovan was not included in the meeting invitation list and apologized for the oversight.

Mr. Bernie Olson moved that the Board of Public Education approve all seven Variances to Standards applications as presented by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Motion seconded by Mr. John Edwards.

Question from Board member Bremner. Motion passed unanimously.

❖ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Sharon Carroll (Items 14-15)

**Item 14 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PERTAINING TO THE AMENDMENTS OF ARM TITLE 10, CHAPTER 64 SCHOOL BUS DRIVER QUALIFICATIONS
Donell Rosenthal**

Ms. Donell Rosenthal presented to the Board the Notice of Public Hearing and Proposed Timeline to Administrative Rules of Montana Title 10, Chapter 64 School Bus Driver Qualifications. Ms. Rosenthal asked the Board for approval of the hearing and timeline. Mr. Edwards discussed the changes made to 10.64.201(b) and (1) as requested by the Board at the March 2014 meeting. A hearing will be scheduled for June 26th, 2014 at 10:00.

Mr. John Edwards moved to approve the Notice of Public Hearing pertaining to the Amendments of ARM Title 10, Chapter 64 School Bus Driver Qualifications. Motion seconded by Mr. Bernie Olson.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 15 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE BASE AID PAYMENT SCHEDULE
Nancy Coopersmith**

Ms. Coopersmith presented the BASE Aid Payment Schedule to the Board as required by statute and requested the Board's approval of the schedule.

Mr. Bernie Olson moved that the Board of Public Education approve the BASE Aid Payment schedule as presented. Motion seconded by Ms. Mary Jo Bremner.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

❖ LICENSURE COMMITTEE – John Edwards (Items 16-17)

**Item 16 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE STATE EXIT REPORT OF THE DECEMBER 1-4, 2013 REVIEW OF THE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNIT AT ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE
Dr. Linda Peterson, Stephanie Schmitz**

Dr. Peterson reviewed the Exit Report for the Professional Education Unit at Rocky Mountain College and requested the Board's approval.

Mr. John Edwards moved to approve the December 2013 State Exit Report and to approve the regular accreditation status at Rocky Mountain College. Motion seconded by Mr. Paul Andersen.

Question from Board member Olson and Board member Edwards.

Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

**Item 17 REPORT ON THE REVISION PROGRESS OF ARM TITLE 10, CHAPTER 58
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM STANDARDS
Dr. Linda Peterson, Patty Muir, Michael Hall**

Dr. Peterson introduced Ms. Patty Muir and Mr. Michael Hall from OPI to present the progress of the Chapter 58 revisions. Mr. Hall and Ms. Muir discussed specifically how the panel of reviewers was formed, how they are working through the revisions, the timeframe for the review to be completed, and when the changes will go before the Board. Discussion ensued amongst the Board and OPI regarding the review process, the amount of volunteers who are working on this project, and the use of technology to review the process. Dr. Peterson reviewed the partnership agreement with NCATE that established protocol of how the two bodies do business together. The accrediting organization is moving to CAEP.

Meeting adjourned for the day at 4:32 PM.

Friday May 9th, 2014
8:00 AM

Meeting was called to order at 8:01 AM.

❖ MSDB LIAISON - Lila Taylor (Item 18)

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public was afforded the opportunity to comment before the Board on every action item on the agenda prior to final Board action.

**Item 18 MSDB REPORT
Steve Gettel**

Mr. Olson updated the Board on the previous weeks MSDB Committee meeting. An item of note from the committee meeting is the wording change that needs to take place with regards to the MSDB Foundation Board of ARM Title 10 Chapter 59 sections 103 and 104.

- **Approve draft budget proposals prepared for OBPP for 2017 biennium**

Mr. Gettel introduced Ms. Donna Schmidt, the Finance Manager, who reviewed for the Board the draft budget for the 2017 biennium that the school will present to the OBPP. Ms. Schmidt covered 5 priorities in the budget request: salary increases for staff and faculty, maintenance, communications and security, student travel, and replacement/upgrade of classroom technology.

Mr. Bernie Olson moved that the Board of Public Education approve the draft MSDB budget request for the 2017 biennium. Motion seconded by Mr. John Edwards.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Approve MSDB 2014-2015 School Calendar**

Mr. Bernie Olson moved that the Board of Public Education approve the 2014-15 MSDB School Calendar as presented. Motion was seconded by Ms. Mary Jo Bremner.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Motion to review ARM Title 10 Chapter 59: School for the Deaf and Blind Foundation Sections 103 and 104**

Mr. Gettel reviewed the history of sections 103 and 104 in ARM Title 10, Chapter 59 and reviewed the changes as requested which include a BPE member being on the Foundation Board.

Mr. Bernie Olson moved that the Board of Public Education move to strike 10.59.103 1(a)(i) “the Board of Public Education shall have one of it’s members serve as a member of the board of directors of the foundation for the duration of his term as a Board of Public Education member”. Motion seconded by Mr. John Edwards.

Discussion was heard from the Board chair to note that the Board members feel strong support of the Foundation Board but feel that their duties are being neglected by members being unable to serve on the foundation board as rule notes, thus the reason for the change. Mr. Donovan will draft a letter from the Board to the Foundation Board stating such.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Motion to Approve MHSA Renewal Forms for:**
 - **Boy and Girls Basketball**
 - **Boys and Girls Track**
 - **Co-Op with Great Falls Central School for Football**

Mr. Bernie Olson moved to approve the MHSA renewal forms for Great Falls Central School for Boys and Girls Basketball, Boys and Girls Track and a new co-op for Football. Mr. John Edwards seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

- **MSDB Superintendent Search**

Mr. Gettel made suggestions to the Board in initiating a search process for the new MSDB Superintendent. Mr. Gettel noted that there are 8 or 9 other similar schools in other states with open searches for Superintendents. Mr. Donovan updated the Board on the process he has started with the Department of Administration Human Resources Division, and with Dr. Kirk Miller who had directed the search when Mr. Gettel was hired. The draft vacancy announcement was reviewed and changes discussed. Mr. Donovan asked Board members to review the draft vacancy announcement and make suggested changes to Mr. Donovan by the end of next week. Salary range was discussed amongst Board members. Mr. Parman added that a report is being put together at OPI with salary ranges for Administrators by Region in Montana and that report can be shared with Mr. Donovan.

DISCUSSION

❖ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Sharon Carroll (Items 19-21)

Item 19 PRESENTATION ON STEM GRANT Dr. Ken Miller, Rayelynn Connoles

Dr. Ken Miller and Ms. Rayelynn Connoles introduced themselves to the Board and gave their backgrounds in Education and Science. Dr. Miller reviewed the grant and how the training process works, how teachers are involved and what the new process will look like as a three dimensional model compared to the current one dimensional level that is taught. Dr. Miller and Ms. Connoles fielded

questions from the Board. Mr. Parman was asked where the OPI was in looking at the Next Generation Science Standards. The draft timeline is that it will not be reviewed before the next calendar year.

*****Meeting closed for Executive Session at 10:15 AM for the MSDB Superintendent Evaluation and BPE Executive Director Evaluation.*****

**Item 20 MSDB SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION
Sharon Carroll**

**Item 21 BPE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EVALUATION
Sharon Carroll**

Executive Session ended at 11:39 AM.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS July 17-18th, 2014

*Strategic Planning Meeting
CSPAC/BPE Joint Meeting
Annual CSPAC Report
Annual GED Report
Special Education Report
Assessment Update
Federal Update
Accreditation Update
Superintendent Search Update***

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

ADJOURN MEETING

Mr. John Edwards moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:44 AM. Motion seconded by Mr. Bernie Olson.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

****Items added during meeting.**

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